



The

Long  
and

Winding

Road

Following Jesus When the Path is Rough

Lent 2022

Sunday, March 27, 2022

**11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

Today's scripture could just as easily be called the Parable of the Prodigal Father—the father who wastes his love, his joy, his hope, his money, even his food on this wayward boy. Many of us know what it is like to feel like we are wasting our love on someone, and the pain it can cause—yet wasting love is precisely what God models for us, and learning to love lavishly is a spiritual practice all on its own.

*Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to register your attendance (scan the QR code in the pew) so we know you're here and we can get to know you better.*

STJOHNSBR.ORG | @STJOHNSBR

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## OUR MISSION

We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.

## OUR VISION

Our church will be known as a center for feeding people spiritually and physically in our community.

## OUR CORE VALUES

We believe the following guiding principles make us a fruitful and spiritually intentional church:

- Fellowship: A sense of family, hospitality, and belonging to an open, accepting, and nurturing community.
- Caring: Loving response to needs of all people through empathy and compassion.
- Mission: giving of ourselves to meet and serve the needs of all others by faithful witness through our actions, servanthood and way of living.
- Spiritual Growth: Studying, understanding and growing in the word of God by Christ-centered prayer, worship and service through discipleship in action.

## OUR CONTACT INFO

230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810

[office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org) | 225-766-4594 | [stjohnsbr.org](http://stjohnsbr.org) | @stjohnsbr

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - noon



**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

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*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We fully welcome and love engaging children in worship! We include a special Children's Moment each Sunday.

- **The St. John's Playground** is located in the front of the sanctuary. This is a place for children and their families to worship together, allowing children to more fully participate in the service. More details about the Playground may be found on our website.
- A staffed **nursery** for infants through preschool is open every Sunday morning and is located next door in our Education/Administration building.
- **Changing tables** are located in the restrooms in the back of the sanctuary and our nursery.
- Children are welcome to receive **Holy Communion**, which is served weekly at 8:30 a.m. and on the first Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. Our communion elements are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free elements are also available.
- **Sunday School** is offered for children starting at age 3 through 12th grade from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

*Any questions? Ushers are glad to assist you.*

## ST JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn  
*Lead Pastor*  
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

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Custodian  
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# JOURNEYING INWARD

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable.  
Bold indicates congregational response.*

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## Introit

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

Alleluia Ringers

## \*Call to Worship

Richard Damberg

If you have travelled a long and winding road this week  
and fear you've lost your way...  
**return to the Lord.**

If you have felt trapped, invisible or alone,  
**return to the Lord.**

For God is waiting with open arms  
**and will come running.**

God's love is lavished upon you forever.  
**We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

Return to the Lord, people of God.  
**We are coming home!**

## \*Hymn of Praise

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 139, vs. 1, 3, 5

## \*Affirming Our Faith

Richard Damberg

*From Romans 8:35, 37-39*

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?  
Shall tribulation or distress,  
or persecution or famine,  
or nakedness or peril or sword?

**No!**

**In all things we are more than conquerors  
through the One who loved us.**

**We are sure that neither  
death nor life,**

**nor angels, nor principalities,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers,**

**nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen. Amen.**

## **REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY**

**Children's Moment**

Rhonda Tucker

**Anthem**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

Alleluia Ringers

**Prayer for Illumination**

Richard Damberg

**Your word, O Lord, is a light in this journey of faith.  
Open our eyes that we may see your way.  
Open our ears, that we may hear your truth.  
Open our hearts that we may know your presence.  
In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**Scripture**

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Richard Damberg

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

"When It Goes to Waste"

Pastor Lane

## **PATH TO HONESTY AND GRATITUDE**

**\*Hymn of Faith**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 292, vs. 1, 3, 4

**Prayers of the People**

Pastor Lane

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God**

Chancel Choir

*God of Mercy and Compassion*  
*We appreciate your generosity.*  
*Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.*  
*You may give online at [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://stjohnsbr.org/give).*

**\*Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## JOURNEYING OUTWARD

**Call to Action**

Pastor Lane

*We joyfully welcome all those who wish to become members of St. John's and invite you to come forward during the singing of the closing hymn.*

**\*Hymn of Discipleship**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 138, vs. 1, 2, 6

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Lane

When the journey is long and winding,  
**Guide us, Lord.**

When there are dangers along the way,  
**Guard us, Lord.**

When we are tempted to lose faith,  
**Give us strength, Lord.**

Let the Holy Spirit guide you on the journey ahead.  
**We go forth knowing that the Spirit of God goes with us.**  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Postlude**

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Worship Stewards**

Ushers in today's service are Tommie Reinhardt, Rhonda Tucker.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Covid-19 Task Force Update**

The COVID-19 Task Force, in its regular meetings, has followed the CDC recommendations along with looking to other experts. According to the CDC, East Baton Rouge Parish is in a “low” risk category. We encourage you to follow whatever mask wearing protocol is appropriate for you. The task force will continue to monitor the local and federal recommendations/guidelines and communicate with the congregation if anything changes. The recommendations at this level are as follows:

- Stay up to date on vaccinations, get tested if you have symptoms.
- No mask wearing is required, whether indoor or outdoor.
- When should a mask be required? If you have had direct known contact to a COVID-19 patient or if you are immuno-compromised and are indoors.

## **Grab a Bag Sunday**

Don't forget to pick up a yellow bag to put your groceries for The Shepherd's Market. Next **Sunday, April 3**, will be Grocery Bag Sunday.

## **Easter Lilies**

We will be ordering Easter Lilies for the sanctuary. If you would like to dedicate a lily in honor of or in memory of a loved one, call the office (225-766-4594), send an email (office@stjohnsbr.org), or pick up a form in the narthex to place your order. Lilies will be \$15. You may pay by check or online at stjohnsbr.org/give, under Other>Sub Fund. **Deadline is Monday, April 11.**

## **Mission to St. Mark's UMC**

Rev. Larry Norman is planning our bi-annual mission trip to St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans to provide a meal to those experiencing hunger and homelessness in and around the French Quarter. Mark your calendar for the weekend after Easter: **Sunday, April 24**. St. Mark's has returned to serving meals so St. John's will be providing a meal that will be prepped on Saturday, April 23. We will be leaving for New Orleans on April 24 at 7 a.m. You may contact Rev. Larry Norman for more information at lducknataol@gmail.com or 225-933-1881. There is no cost to participate in this mission and all ages and abilities are welcome to serve.

## **Volunteer to Make Our Windows Sparkle!**

The Trustees Committee invites all congregation members to come out at **9 a.m., Saturday, April 9**, to assist in making our windows sparkle! We will wash as many windows as possible throughout the campus during the morning hours. Questions? Contact Kathy King (281-0314).

## **Announcing 2022 Summer Ministry Intern**

This full-time, salaried summer ministry internship is for young adults who have a passion for youth ministry and may be exploring a call to ministry. The internship will include a range of ministerial responsibilities half of which will be devoted to providing leadership and support to our Youth ministries. Additional ministry time will be spent exploring the various areas of church leadership. If you are interested or you know of someone who might be interested, send an inquiry cover letter, resume, and references to jobs@stjohnsbr.org by April 18.

## **Ukraine Offering**

We are taking a special offering through UMCOR, The United Methodist Committee on Relief for Ukrainians remaining in Ukraine and those fleeing for safety. Remember - 100% of your donation will go to this humanitarian effort. Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways: give from the St. John's website, make a check to St. John's and include "UMCOR-Ukraine" on the memo line, or a cash donation, cash donations in envelopes should be marked with "UMCOR-Ukraine" as well.

## **Holy Week at St. John's (in person and online)**

**Palm/Passion Sunday, 8:30 and 11 a.m.** - Celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Children and the young at heart will process with palms.

**Maundy Thursday Worship, 6 p.m.** - Remembering Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Join us for Holy Communion.

**Good Friday Worship, 6 p.m.** - Weaving together traditional Good Friday readings about Jesus' final hours, his crucifixion, and his death.

**Easter Sunday, 8:30 and 11 a.m.** - Celebrate the Glory of Christ's resurrection.